

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT mailed May 9, 2006 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In the NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT the Examiner stated, "the claims of this amendment paper are not correctly numbered according to the original claims." However, the applicant has carefully studied the amendment and is not able to determine how the claims are not correctly numbered. The applicant's attorney has telephoned the examiner and left a message asking for clarification, but the examiner has not returned the attorney's call.

The applicant is speculating that perhaps the Examiner is objecting to the inclusion of number 10 in Claim 14. Accordingly, applicant has amended Claim 14 to remove the number 10.

Conclusion

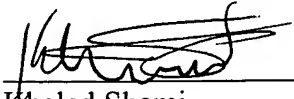
It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

Dated: July 10, 2006


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